

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04
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PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-00 AID-05 /086 R

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P 212114Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 212116

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, NU

SUBJECT: POLITICIZATION OF CUS

REF: (A) MANAGUA 3225 (B) MANAGUA 3722 (NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY SHOULD AT PRESENT CONTINUE NORMAL CONTACTS WITH CUS, BUT SHOULD MONITOR TO EXTENT FEASIBLE TO ENSURE THAT ITS POLITICAL ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF FRENTE AMPLIO ARE NOT CARRIED OUT BY PERSONNEL PRIMARILY FUNDED BY AID THROUGH AIFLD AND THAT OTHER FUNDS SUPPLIED BY AID THROUGH AIFLD ARE NOT USED FOR SUCH POLITICAL ACTIVITIES. WE UNDERSTAND THERE ARE THREE SUCH AID FUNDED PERSONNEL, ALL INTERNS, TWO OF WHOM ARE ON EXECUTIVE COUNCIL: JORGE MORALES, MARIANO MONDOZA AND AURA LILA GONZALES. CUS SEC. GEN. LUIS MEDRANO AND ALTAGRACIA ARAUZ RECEIVE MONTHLY STIPENDS, WE UNDERSTAND, OUT OF A FUND SUPPLIED TO THE CUS BY AIFLD FROM PRIVATE
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(I.E. NON-USG) SOURCES.

2. THIS POSITION RE CUS WOULD SEEM ANALOGOUS TO OUR POSITION WITH FUNDE/INDE, WHICH WE UNDERSTAND IS ALSO POLITICALLY INVOLVED. WE WERE INFORMED BY AIFLD (HADDAD) THAT AIFLD POLICY WILL BE TO MAINTAIN CURRENT

RELATIONSHIP WITH CUS WHILE ASSURING THAT NO AIFLD
RESOURCES ARE USED TO SUPPORT POLITICAL ACTIVITY.

3. IF GON TAKES INITIATIVE TO DIRECTLY COMPLAIN TO
AIFLD OR EMBASSY RE AIFLD SUPPORT OF POLITICALLY INVOLVED
CUS, INFO THAT AID-FUNDED PERSONNEL NOT PERMITTED TO
BE INCLUDED IN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES AND RATIONALE RE
CONTACTS IN FOLLOWING PARA. MAY BE GIVEN TO GON.
IF GON NONETHELESS PERSISTS IN COMPLAINT, EMBASSY SHOULD
IMMEDIATELY ADVISE AIFLD REP. AND REQUEST FURTHER
INSTRUCTION FROM DEPARTMENT.

4. EMBASSY'S CONTINUING CONTACT WITH CUS SHOULD NOT BE
BASED ON RATIONALE PARA. 5 OF REF. A, SINCE CONTACTS
BY EMBASSY AND EVEN ASSISTANCE BY AID THROUGH AIFLD
ARE MAINTAINED WITH LABOR MOVEMENTS WHICH MIGHT TAKE
POLITICAL STANCE OR HAVE SOME POLITICAL AFFILIATION
FOR EITHER IDEOLOGICAL OR PRAGMATIC REASONS. THAT
AFFILIATION MAY BE WITH A GROUP EITHER SUPPORTING
OR IN NON-VIOLENT WAY OPPOSING GOVERNMENT. OUR
ASSISTANCE IS JUSTIFIED ON BASIS OF IMPROVING CONDITIONS
OF WORKERS AND ON DEDICATION OF RECIPIENT ORGANIZATION
TO PRINCIPLES OF FREE TRADE UNIONISM. OUR CONTACTS
SHOULD BE JUSTIFIED ON THE SAME BASIS AS ARE CONTACTS
OF EMBASSY WITH EVERY OTHER LEGITIMATE AND SIGNIFICANT
ELEMENT OF THE SOCIETY.
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5. IF CUS IS USING AID FUNDS OR DIRECTLY SUPPORTED
PERSONNEL (E.G. INTERNS) FOR ITS POLITICAL AS DISTINCT
FROM TRADE UNION ACTIVITIES, EMBASSY SHOULD REQUEST THAT
AIFLD REPRESENTATIVE ENSURE SUCH USE IS TERMINATED. CHRISTOPHER

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